

impoverished immigrant to achieve success for himself and his family.

Benny is survived by his wife Irene, his brother Harry, his children Bill Friedman and Debbie Chapman, four grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Benny Friedman's life is an example for all of us that hard work, honesty, and caring for others leads to success. But Benny went far beyond that in giving back to this community and to all who knew him. I will miss Benny, but I am thankful to have had the opportunity to be one who knew him.

**JOE POWELL: LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR**

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime leader in the labor movement, Joe Powell. Joe is the business manager/financial secretary of the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 206 representing approximately 1,300 members. As business manager, Joe serves as the chairman of the committee which negotiates wages, hours, and conditions of employment.

As financial secretary, Joe assumes full responsibility and liability to the local union and the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association for all monies received and recorded. Additionally, Joe serves in numerous capacities with other Local 206 affiliates such as the trustee for the Sheet Metal Workers' Trust Fund, chairman of the San Diego Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee, JATC, executive board member for the AFL-CIO Labor Council, co-chairman for the Local 206 401(a) plan and executive board member of the San Diego Building and Construction Trades Council.

Joe showed his desire to participate in the advancement of his union's labor movement in 1994 when he was elected conductor for Sheet Metal Workers' Local 206. He served in this position until 1997 when he ran for and was elected as a trustee of the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 206. Joe served as a trustee until 2000 and in July 2000, he was elected as business representative of his local. From 2000 to 2004, Joe was responsible for the dispatching and drug testing of members and handling any grievances that may arise. From 2004 to the present, Joe Powell has served as business manager and financial secretary-treasurer of Local 206.

Advancement in education has also been a priority to Joe as he has completed numerous courses and training that has greatly aided his career development. In addition to completing his 4-year apprenticeship training and becoming a certified instructor in CPR and first-aid training, he attended the National Labor College at the George Meaney Center where he received the bachelor's degree in labor studies.

Joe has been a resident of Alpine, California, his entire life along with his wife and daughter. His wife and family have been very supportive of his career choices.

I am very proud to join with the San Diego labor community in honoring Joe Powell as the 2008 Labor Leader of the Year.

**TRIBUTE TO BRIDGET McCUE OF CAPE CORAL, FL**

**HON. CONNIE MACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young hero from my district, Bridget McCue of Cape Coral, Florida, for her extraordinary bravery during a fire.

On July 31, 2008, a small fire broke out in the computer room at the McCue home. Thanks to 13-year-old Bridget's quick thinking, she was able to get her younger brother and sister out of the house and to safety. She then called 911 from a neighbor's house and called her parents, who were returning home from an errand.

Bridget's parents, Randy and Barbara, credit Bridget's training through a Red Cross babysitting class for her quick thinking and bravery. She is a role model for other teenagers across southwest Florida and is very deserving of the Lee County Red Cross' Certificate of Recognition for Extraordinary Personal Action. The people of southwest Florida and I are very proud of Bridget and her accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to represent such a courageous young lady as Bridget McCue in Congress. I wish Bridget and her family all the best and congratulate her on a job well done.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS**

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the National Association of Postal Supervisors on their 100th anniversary. This organization, which started in my hometown a hundred years ago, has become an international leader in the fight for workers' rights.

In 1908, 50 individuals gathered at the Seelbach Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, to fight for the working conditions of their fellow employees. These individuals were tired of endless hours without break, deplorable working conditions, low and inequitable pay, and stringent penalties for speaking out. This meeting marked the beginning of a powerful voice in Washington that now represents 34,000 active and retired employees. NAPS has fought hard to provide hard-working people with a decent salary, proper benefits, and the opportunity to work with dignity. And today, on their 100th anniversary, it is safe to say they succeeded.

Generations of postal supervisors have come and gone since that day in 1908, and each has built upon the accomplishments of their predecessors. NAPS continues to fight for reform, taking a stand for full pension and health care benefits, working to bring postal leadership into line with the 21st century, and increasing the revenue for the United States Postal Service. The organization is also leading the call for a vote by mail system so every individual has the opportunity to participate in

our democracy regardless of the barriers they face on election day.

With NAPS' long history of success, I feel confident the organization will continue to deliver victories for the next generation of postal supervisors. As the congressional Representative for Branch 1, the first of what will grow into scores NAPS' branches in all 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam, I offer my sincere thanks for years of hard work and wish you a happy centennial celebration.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF GLEN A. SMITH, SR.**

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and accomplishments of a man who dedicated his life to service and seizing the day, Glen A. Smith of Rockwall.

Smith was born on May 24, 1939, in Normal, Illinois to Myers and Marybelle (Miller) Smith. He married Peggy (Pannell) Smith, and they were fortunate to have five wonderful children, Kimberli Geissler Smith of Fort Worth, Glen Allen Smith, Jr. of Dallas and Katy Chesshir of Sachse, and stepchildren Christina Hoff of Forney and Joel Rhorer of Prairie Home, Missouri.

Smith was the owner of Curry Auto Leasing in Dallas for many years until his retirement in September of 2005. In March 2007, he opened Smitty's Roadhouse Bar & Grill in Rockwall, which he owned and operated until his death. Glen enjoyed living life to the fullest, and was a race car driver all of his life, racing in the 24 hours of LeMans in France and receiving the 1986 Formula Atlantic Indy Car Rookie of the Year Award.

Glen was also involved with his community and in civic affairs. He was a member of the Rockwall Breakfast Rotary Club and was also a City of Rockwall Planning & Zoning Commissioner. He also believed in sharing his faith and was a member of the Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas.

Madam Speaker, we are privileged to have known such a great public servant and genuine individual. Please join me today as we honor the memory and celebrate the life of Glen A. Smith, Sr.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009**

SPEECH OF

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6599) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes:

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would make it easier for veterans to find